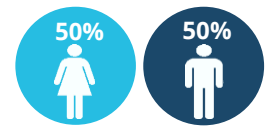




World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Yemen Country Brief October 2021



## In Numbers<sup>1</sup>

**11.9 million people**  
targeted for general food assistance in October

**107,000 mt** of in-kind general food distributions

**25,400 mt** through commodity vouchers

**US\$ 12.4 million** in cash transfers

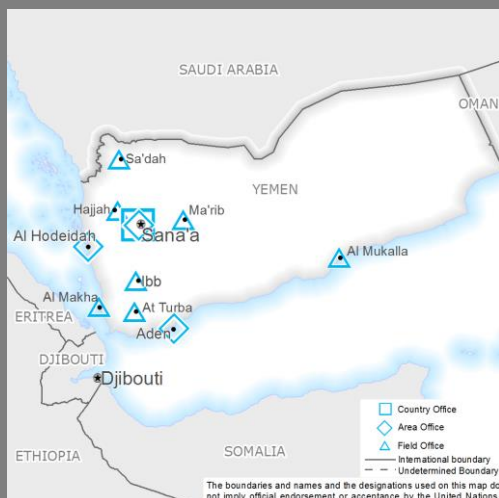
**US\$ 802.4 million** six-month net funding requirement (November 2021 – April 2022)

## Operational Context

As of early 2021, 16.2 million people, more than 50 percent of the population of Yemen, are estimated to be food insecure. Of these, 47,000 people are estimated to live in famine-like conditions (IPC Phase 5). Limited access to food is compounded by several factors, including the ongoing conflict, the effects of low incomes, the depreciation of the Yemeni currency, uncertainty of access to Yemen's Red Sea ports, large family sizes, high unemployment rates and the irregular or non-payment of salaries of many civil servants.

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country ranked 179<sup>th</sup> out of 189 countries, according to the 2020 Human Development Report. At least 50 percent of the population is estimated to be living in poverty, and more than 90 percent of food in Yemen is imported.

Present in Yemen since 1967, WFP currently aims to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies. It aims specifically to increase food consumption through the scale-up of life-saving emergency food assistance (particularly among the most food insecure population), as well as to expand coverage of nutrition interventions to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).



Population: **30.8 million**

2020 Human Development Index: **179 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

Global Acute Malnutrition: **2.25 million cases of children between 0-59**

## Operational Updates

- Under the October cycle, WFP targeted 11.9 million people for general food assistance (GFA). Of these, 8.6 million people were targeted with in-kind food assistance, 2 million people with commodity vouchers and more than 1.3 million people with cash assistance.
- According to the latest WFP [food security update](#), the nationwide average rate of inadequate food consumption in Yemen stands at 41.5 percent, above the “very high” threshold of 40 percent. Conflict-affected Ma’rib governorate has seen the most severe deterioration of the food security situation this year, with the rate of inadequate food consumption growing by 55 percent from January to September 2021.
- Military escalation in the governorates of Ma’rib, Shabwah and Al Bayda continued in October. The number of displaced people in these three governorates had risen to 50,000 by the end of October according to IOM. WFP is preparing to verify the needs and status of some 133,500 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in seven districts of Ma’rib, following a one-off round of food distributions. Distributions started on 23 September, and close to 110,000 IDPs had been assisted as of the end of October.
- Data collection for the nationwide 2021 Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment (FSLA) continued in October, with data collection ongoing across the country (in both areas under the Sana’a-based authorities and areas under the IRG). The FSLA results will feed into the forthcoming Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis.
- WFP is currently conducting a countrywide beneficiary retargeting and registration exercise across Yemen. As of the end of October, close to 2 million people had been biometrically registered in the southern governorates (areas under the IRG), out of 3.7 million GFA beneficiaries. In the northern governorates (areas under the Sana’a-based authorities), pilot phase targeting has been completed, with over 141,000 people retargeted. Around 118,600 people have had their biodata digitized, and nearly 52,000 people have been biometrically registered and are either enrolled or ready to be enrolled for cash assistance.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen)

*Photo Caption: A worker of a WFP cooperating partner talks with Abdunasser, whose family receives a monthly WFP food basket at at Gharan Al Shamal Camp in Al-Abr, Hadramawt governorate. Photo: ©WFP Hani Saleh*

<sup>1</sup>October figures reflect the planned figures for the October assistance cycle.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)	
Total requirement (in US\$)	Total received
<b>6.73 b</b>	<b>4.29 b</b>
2021 requirement	Six-month net funding requirement (November 2021 – April 2022)
<b>1.91 b</b>	<b>802.4 m</b>

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen, have access to lifesaving, safe and nutritious food all year.  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide life-saving food assistance to severely food -insecure households (URT: Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food).

**Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition**

**Strategic Outcome 2:** People at risk of malnutrition, especially pregnant and lactating women and girls and children under 5 years old, have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2021.  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide nutrition assistance to treat and prevent malnutrition.
  - Provide conditional cash assistance to support access to nutrition and health services.

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.**

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable households across Yemen have access to equitable social safety nets and basic services during and in the aftermath of crises.  
**Focus area:** Resilience Building

- Activities:**
- Provide school meals. WFP will provide school meals to increase the food intake and school attendance of primary school-age children.
  - Support community infrastructure rehabilitation and livelihoods through food assistance for assets.

**Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs**

**Strategic Outcome 4:** International and national partners are supported in their efforts to assist people in Yemen and preserve critical services.  
**Focus area:** Crisis Response

- Activities:**
- Provide humanitarian air services through UNHAS. UNHAS provides safe and reliable air transport services and standby capacity for the evacuation of humanitarian staff if required.
  - Logistics Cluster.
  - Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC).
  - Bilateral Service Provision.

**Monitoring**

- In October, WFP and third-party monitoring companies conducted 1,300 monitoring activities, including in-person visits and remote monitoring calls.
- Monitored activities included general food assistance (in-kind, commodity vouchers, and cash-based transfers), nutrition prevention and treatment programmes, school feeding, and resilience and livelihood interventions.
- WFP’s call centres conducted 37,800 calls to verify the receipt of assistance, food delivery to distribution sites, and to collect data on food security indicators.

**Funding and Pipeline Updates**

- WFP urgently needs an additional USD 802.4 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months:

Activity	Requirement November 2021 – April 2022
General Food Assistance	642.9 million
Nutrition	100.6 million
School Feeding	38.1 million
Livelihoods	4.4 million
UNHAS	16 million
Logistics Cluster	-
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	0.4 million

**Challenges**

- In October, three vessels carrying a total of 82,700 mt of fuel were permitted to proceed to anchorage at Al Hodeidah Port. Two vessels carrying 50,600 mt of fuel remain held in the Saudi-led Coalition Holding Area. While there was no major interruption to WFP’s operation due to the ongoing fuel crisis, one-two day delivery delays are being reported at district-level where fuel is not always available.
- The number of new daily COVID-19 cases in Yemen has gradually decreased after spiking in mid-September. As of the end of the month, 9,751 cases and 1,874 deaths had been recorded by WHO. WFP continues to implement safety measures to minimize the risk of infection among its beneficiaries, cooperating partners, and staff.
- In October, the value of the Yemeni riyal (YER) continued to fluctuate in areas under the IRG after breaking the YER 1,200/USD 1 barrier on 06 October. The riyal once again hit a record low in October, reaching YER 1,373/USD 1 on 16 October. As of the end of the month, the riyal traded at YER 1,285/USD 1 in areas under the IRG. Meanwhile, the YER remains stable in the areas under Sana’a-based authorities and averaged YER 600/USD 1 in September, approximately the same as in January 2020.

**Donors** (2021, in alphabetical order):

Australia, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Commission, the World Bank, UN CERF, UN Country-Based Pooled Funds, UN other funds and agencies (excl. CERF), Flexible Funding, Miscellaneous Income, and private donors.